(b) if so, whether the Central Government have taken any decision in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) According to the current policy, issue of public sector bonds is restricted to only those undertakings which are wholly or partly owned by Central Government.

SC/ST Officers in Syndicate Bank

1992. SHRI RAMNATH KOVIND : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in pursuance of the judgement of Supreme Court, the Syndicate Bank provided reservation for SC/ST Officers in promotion and communicated vide its circular No. 101/91/BC/HRDD/10/MPRDS dated the 19th April, 1991 ;

(b) whether Syndicate Bank have withdrawn established reservation in promotion in interscale, within officers cadre with effect from 1st November, 1990 on 28th April, 1993; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) In pursuance of the Supreme Court judgement dated 10th August 1990 in the Writ Petition No. 847/87 filed by Syndicate Bank SC/ST Employees' Association versus Union of India and others, Syndicate Bank provided for reservations in favour of SC/ST in promotions within its officers cadre.

(b) and (c) Following the Department of Personnel & Training instructions dated 1st November 1990 to the effect that there is no reservation in promotions based on selection method within Group A posts, Syndicate Bank discontinued reservations in promotions within its officers cadre A contempt petition filed by Syndicate Bank SC/ST Employees Association before the Hon'ble Supreme Court against the officers of the bank and others was dismissed by the latter on 19th July 1993.

Delay in Clearing of Refunds for Deemed Exports

1993. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRI P. UPENDRA :
SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE :
SHRI G. G. SWELL :
SMT. MIRA DAS :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that undue delay [illegible] refunds for the deemed exports wherein the local manufacturers have paid excise and customs for the raw material used and the products made for exports;

(b) what is the amount to be cleared under this refund scheme known as supplementary CCS (Cash Compensatory Support);

(c) what are the reasons for undue delay;

(d) what is the actual time stipulated for refund; and

(e) whether Government would compensate for the officer's negligence in clearing the refund dues ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) Yes Sir. Some delay has occurred in clearing the refund for deemed exports.

(b) The amount, to be cleared under deemed export incentives, is Rs. 243.49 crores only as on 1-12-1994.

(c) to (e) Allocation of funds in a staggered manner is the main reason for delay in clearing the cases. As and when funds are received, the claims are paid immediately after necessary scrutiny. There is no negligence on the part of officers.

Income Tax Collections

1994. SHRI HIPHEI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Income Tax Department has re-designed its strategies to step up its collections during the current fiscal year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these strategies would enable the Government to achieve its target fixed for the current fiscal year;

(d) whether these strategies would not harass and embarrass the general public;

(e) wheher these strategies provide that no inconvenience would be caused to non-tax payers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the measures to be taken in case these strategies are misused ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) and (b) The Income Tax Department is poised to collect substantial increase in collection in direct taxes, which is sought to be achieved by the following means—

(a) Drive to increase collections specially through TDS;

(b) Drive to widen the tax base;

(c) Computerisation; and

(d) Enforcing accountability.

Effective implementation of Section 194-I covering rentals and the provisions of Sections 44AD & 44AE providing for quick estimate of income of truck operators and small contractors, Presumptive Tax Scheme etc. will go a long way in achieving the objective of increase in tax collection.

(c) It is expected that the Budget target during the current financial year would be achieved.

(d) to (f) Strict enforcement of accountability in the Department would go a long way in minimising any harassment and in convenience to both tax payers and non-tax payers. If instances of any misuse of powers by anyone in the Department are found, suitable action under rules and regulations would be taken against him.

Lending Rates for Urban Co-operative Banks

1995. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether new lending rates for Urban Co-operative Banks have been announced;

(b) whether deposit rates for these Banks are also being revised; and

(c) whether per party exposure limits are also being revised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) and (b) The structure of lending rates of primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks effective October 18, 1994 and immediately prior to that date is set out below :—

(Per cent per annum)

Size of the Credit limit	Rates prior to October 18, 1994		Rates effective October 18, 1994
	Term Loans	All other Advances	All Advances (including term loans)
1. Up to and inclusive of Rs. 25,000/-	14.0	14.0	13.0
2. Over Rs. 25,000/- and upto Rs. 2 lakh	14.0	15.0	13.5
3. Over Rs. 2 lakh	14.0 (minimum)	15.0 (minimum)	Free

The old and the revised structure of deposit rates of Primary (Urban) Cooperative Banks is given below :—

(Per cent per annum)

Category of Account	Old Rates	New Rates (effective November 1, 1994)
Current	Not exceeding 0.5	Not exceeding 0.5
Savings	5.0	4.5
Term Deposits		
46 days to 3 years and above	Not exceeding 10.0	Not exceeding 10.0

Primary (Urban Co-operative Banks may, at their discretion, continue to allow additional interest at a rate not exceeding 1.0% per annum on all saving deposits and at a rate not exceeding 0.5% per annum on all term deposits of not less than 46 days.

(c) The information is not readily available and the same is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Fake Share Scandal Rocks Amritsar

1996. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Governments' attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 16th November, 1994 under the caption "Fake Share Scandal Rocks Amritsar";

(b) if so, whether CBI enquiry has been ordered or not;